IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An information-processing apparatus, configured to delete information stored, in accordance with a request made by a user for canceling a service, the information processing apparatus comprising:

receiving means for receiving, in a ticket request, service ID data designating a specific service to be provided, together with user ID data and apparatus ID data, from an external apparatus, and for receiving a cancellation request including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data from the external apparatus;

storage means for storing the user ID data and the service ID data, in <u>an</u> association with the apparatus ID data, which identifies the external apparatus and which has been registered;

deleting means for deleting, from the storage means, the apparatus ID data after deleting, from the storage means, the service ID data, when the receiving means receives, from the external apparatus, the cancellation request [[data]] requesting [[for]] a deletion of the apparatus ID data, the request data including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and for producing a result of an authentication based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data upon a reception of the ticket request; and

transmitting means for transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the reception of the ticket request, based on the result of the authentication based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and for transmitting, to the external apparatus, deletion-complete information indicating that the deleting means has finished deleting the apparatus ID data, the ticket including time data representing a time of the authentication upon the deletion.

Application No. 10/567,689

Reply to Office Action of March 18, 2010

2. (Original) The information-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the external apparatus identified by the apparatus ID data stored in the storage means, in association with the service ID data, is requested to provide the service.

3. (Currently Amended) An information-processing system, configured to delete information stored, in accordance with a request made by a user for canceling a service, the information processing system comprising:

an information-processing apparatus having,

receiving means for receiving, in a ticket request from an external apparatus, service ID data designating a specific service to be provided, together with user ID data identifying the user and apparatus ID data identifying [[an]] the external apparatus, and for receiving a cancellation request including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data from the external apparatus,

storage means for storing the user ID data, the apparatus ID data, and the service ID data, in <u>an</u> association with one another,

authentication means for performing an authenticating process in accordance with the user ID data and the apparatus ID data to produce an authentication result <u>upon a reception of the ticket request</u>,

deleting means for deleting, from the storage means, the apparatus ID data after deleting, from the storage means, the service ID data, when the receiving means receives, from the external apparatus, the cancellation request [[data]] requesting [[for]] a deletion of the apparatus ID data, the request data including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and

transmitting means for transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, <u>in</u> response to the reception of the ticket request, based on the authentication result <u>in</u>

accordance with the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, and for transmitting deletion-complete information indicating that the deleting means has finished deleting the apparatus ID data upon the deletion, the ticket including time data representing a time of the authenticating process, and

the another external apparatus having,

data-transmitting means for transmitting, in the ticket request, the user ID data, the apparatus ID data and the service ID data to the information-processing apparatus,

ID data storage means for storing the apparatus ID data,

ID data deleting means for deleting the apparatus ID data stored in the ID data storage means,

deletion-request transmitting means for transmitting the <u>cancellation</u> request [[data]] requesting [[for]] the deletion, and

completion-information receiving means for receiving the deletion-complete information.

4. (Currently Amended) The information-processing system according to claim 3, wherein[[,]] the information-processing apparatus has authenticating authentication means for issuing issues an authentication session ID that identifies a session with the external apparatus, [[;]] the transmitting means transmits the authentication session ID to the external apparatus, [[;]] the external apparatus transmits the service ID data, together with the authentication session ID received from the information-processing apparatus, [[;]] the information-processing apparatus verifies the authentication session ID received, and issues an authentication the ticket corresponding to the service ID data received, ; the transmitting means transmits the authentication ticket to the external apparatus; and the data-transmitting means of the external apparatus transmits a service-requesting signal to a server which

provides the service, together with the authentication ticket received, the service-requesting signal requesting that the server should provide the service.

5. (Currently Amended) A communication method for use in an information-processing apparatus configured to delete information stored, in accordance with a request made by a user for canceling a service, the communication method comprising:

receiving, in a ticket request from an external apparatus, service ID data designating a specific service to be provided, together with user ID data and apparatus ID data identifying the external apparatus;

storing, in the information-processing apparatus, the user ID data, the apparatus ID data, and the service ID data, in <u>an</u> association with one another;

authenticating, upon the receiving, the user ID data and the apparatus ID data to produce an authentication result;

transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the receiving, based on the authentication result, the ticket including time data representing a time of the authenticating based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data;

receiving a cancellation request including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data from the external apparatus;

deleting, from the information-processing apparatus, with a processor of the information-processing apparatus, the apparatus ID data after deleting, from the information-processing apparatus, the service ID data, upon the receiving the cancellation request when request data requesting [[for]] a deletion of the apparatus ID data is received, the request data including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data; and

transmitting, to the external apparatus, upon the deleting, deletion-complete information indicating that the apparatus ID data has been deleted.

6. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium including a communication program for use in an information processing apparatus configured to delete information stored, in accordance with a request made by a user for canceling a service, wherein the communication program, when executed by a computer, causes the computer to perform a method comprising:

receiving, in a ticket request from an external apparatus, service ID data designating a specific service to be provided, together with user ID data and apparatus ID data identifying the external apparatus;

storing, in the computer, the user ID data, the apparatus ID data, and the service ID data, in an association with one another;

authenticating, upon the receiving, the user ID data and the apparatus ID data to produce an authentication result;

transmitting a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the receiving, based on the authentication result, the ticket including time data representing a time of the authenticating based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data;

receiving a cancellation request including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data from the external apparatus;

deleting, from the computer, the apparatus ID data after deleting, from the computer, the service ID data, upon the receiving the cancellation request when request data requesting [[for]] a deletion of the apparatus ID data is received, the request data including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data; and

transmitting, to the external apparatus, <u>upon the deleting</u>, deletion-complete information indicating that the apparatus ID data has been deleted.

7. (Currently Amended) An information-processing apparatus, comprising:

an interface configured to receive, in a ticket request, service ID data designating a specific service to be provided, together with user ID data and apparatus ID data, from an external apparatus, and to receive a cancellation request including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data from the external apparatus;

a memory configured to store the user ID data and the service ID data, in <u>an</u> association with the apparatus ID data, which identifies the external apparatus and which has been registered;

a processor configured to produce a result of an authentication based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data upon a reception of the ticket request, and to delete, from the memory, the apparatus ID data after deleting, from the memory, the service ID data, when the interface receives, from the external apparatus, the cancellation request [[data]] requesting [[for]] a deletion of the apparatus ID data, the request data including the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, wherein the interface is configured to transmit a ticket to the external apparatus, in response to the reception of the ticket request, based on the result of the authentication based on the user ID data and the apparatus ID data, the ticket including time data representing a time of the authentication, and to transmit, to the external apparatus, upon the deletion, deletion-complete information indicating that the processor has finished deleting the apparatus ID data.

8. (Currently Amended) The information-processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the transmitting means transmits a request corresponding to the service ID data to a different external apparatus after the service ID data is deleted <u>from the storage means</u> and before the apparatus ID data is deleted <u>from the storage means</u>.

9. (Currently Amended) The information-processing apparatus according to claim [[1]] 17, wherein the deleting means compares the ticket with a ticket received by the receiving means, and the deleting means generates authentication-error information when the ticket received by the receiving means is not received within a predetermined term from the time of the authentication.

10-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim [[1]] 17, wherein the deleting means confirms, based on the time data, an authenticity of the ticket, upon a reception of the ticket by the receiving means.

17. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the ticket includes time data representing a time of the authentication.